

Quarterly Issues Report
WLFI-TV
Fourth Quarter, 2012

AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS and HEALTHCARE

The last quarter of 2012 brings a focus on Medicare D and the reason why senior citizens should purchase it. The month of October focuses on breast cancer awareness and News 18 explains why yearly mammograms save lives. Purdue University cuts jobs and News 18 focuses on the evolution of manufacturing jobs. The local Caterpillar plant cuts back on its workforce. More than 50 jobs come to Frankfort, Indiana. With the holidays around the corner, local tree farmers prep for the holidays.

10-4-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A pumpkin grown on a local farm in Brookston sets a new record for the largest pumpkin the farm has ever produced. The pumpkin weighed in at 580 pounds.

10-4-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:50)

Dozens of Chinese executives met with greater Lafayette city officials this afternoon to discuss the future of economic development within the area. News 18's Jessie Hawila has more on why foreign executives have their eyes on the greater Lafayette area.

10-5-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Six health care facilities in Indiana have the epidural steroid injection tied to an outbreak of a rare form of meningitis.

10-7-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

The days are getting shorter, and we find ourselves grabbing a jacket to cover up before we head outside, but what about your plants? As News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, now is the time to think about taking extra care of your plants if you want them to survive the winter.

10-12-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

Purdue employees will be spending more on health care next year. And the Purdue softball team will have a new, multi-million dollar place to call home. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports the changes that came from the first Board of Trustees meeting of the school year.

10-12-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

The annual window for senior citizens to purchase Medicare Part D is quickly approaching. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler has more on why one West Lafayette pharmacist says if you don't have it you should. And if you do have it, it might be time to reconsider your current plan.

10-15-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

According to the Centers for Disease Control, breast cancer is one of the most common cancers in women. The earlier it's detected the better your chance for survival. Women over the age of 40 should get a mammogram every year. News 18's Liz Nichols talks with a current breast cancer patient who says your yearly check-up is one trip to the doctor you shouldn't put off.

10-18-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

Tippecanoe County health officials and sheriff's deputies were denied access today to a dog breeding business the Health Department calls a public health hazard. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports the health department is considering taking the next step.

10-19-12 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

Unemployment rates fell state-wide in September, and local counties saw the trend. Every county in the News 18 viewing area saw jobless rates decline last month. The largest drop was in Benton County, where the rate fell two percentage points, to seven-point-one percent.

10-19-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A new jobs campaign promises to help you find work. The campaign called "Advanced Manufacturing: We have Jobs Here, We have Training here," is a 12 county partnership founded

through Ivy Tech, Greater Lafayette Commerce and Work One. Officials say these jobs pay anywhere from 11 dollars and 54 cents an hour to 24 dollars an hour.

10-22-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Caterpillar is not expecting growth to pick up until the second half of 2013. In response, the company says it has reduced production, resulting in temporary shutdowns and layoffs. In August, the company announced it would eliminate 167 jobs from its workforce.

10-23-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Harrison College in Lafayette hosted a job fair to celebrate their 110th anniversary. The job fair was open for the public and had a variety of jobs ranging from part-time to full-time.

10-26-12 (During the noon broadcast, Duration 1:00)

IU Health Arnett is offering a new cancer treatment option. This new treatment offers the latest technology and more comfort for patients receiving radiation treatment. The Trilogy Linear Accelerator offers what's called "Rapid Arc" Technology.

10-26-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

Fewer cars are traveling through Americus on the old State Road 25 now that a portion of the new Hoosier Heartland Highway from Lafayette to Delphi opened earlier this week.

As News 18's Krista Henery reports some business owners in Americus say while they've already seen a decrease in business other businesses hope it will help their business in the end.

10-27-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

The last Farmers' Market of the season took place in downtown Lafayette.

10-28-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:10)

A health fair at Lafayette Jeff High School today focused on life before, with, and after cancer. More than 40 local businesses had booths at the event promoting healthy lifestyles.

10-29-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:45)

We continue now with our series on breast cancer awareness. Tonight we're focusing on new research going on right here in our community and whether experts think we'll see a cure for breast cancer in our lifetime. News 18's Liz Nichols has the story.

11-14-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:45)

They were once known as the dirty, 'back-breaking and low-paying' jobs. But things have changed in the manufacturing business and a lot of these jobs have become high-tech and high salaried.

In a special report tonight, News 18's Krista Henery digs deeper to find that hundreds of manufacturing jobs are available in the Lafayette area, but employers aren't finding people with the skills they need to fill the gap.

11-15-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 4:05)

Hundreds of manufacturing jobs in Greater Lafayette remain vacant. In part one of the 'Blue Collar Comeback..' News 18's Krista Henery reported that the manufacturing industry continues to change and the jobs aren't the same as they used to be. Tonight in part two we talk to city leaders and employers on how they've come together to get the training and education you need all for no charge.

11-15-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

More than 50 high skilled jobs may be coming to the city of Frankfort. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports while one company announces plans to expand a century old building continues to come down.

11-16-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

The City of West Lafayette looks to save taxpayers some cash when it comes to employee health care costs. For the past five years the city worked to lower its costs. Employees are now more responsible for their coverage from health savings accounts to receiving special incentives for healthy behavior.

11-16-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:35)

Lunch snacks for children and adults alike will never be the same. Bakery icon Hostess is closing putting more than 18 thousand people out of work including about 800 in Indiana. News 18's Jessie Hawila reports one area restaurant is paying their final respects with a special treat.

11-21-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Even though today is all about Thanksgiving tree farmers are hoping you're already planning for Christmas. News 18's Jessie Hawila makes the trip to some local Christmas tree farms and visits one of the area's most festive front lawns.

11-26-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

To some there is no need to stand in line for hours when you can sit down at your computer and get Black Friday deals on Cyber Monday. But consumer specialists see Cyber Monday deals lasting longer this year. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports on the money retailers will bring in online plus where small businesses stand in the holiday shopping madness.

11-26-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:05)

As part of the kick off to AIDS Awareness Week a group took part in a "March to End the Silence." About two dozen students and faculty members carried red candles in a walk across campus to raise awareness for the disease starting at the Purdue Bell Tower and ending at the Black Cultural Center.

11-27-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

100 new jobs are on their way to White County. A iron waste recycling company will occupy the former VeraSun facility in Reynolds. Magnetation, LLC, produces iron ore concentrate. The company will invest 350 million dollars to build a plant. It's expected to open by early 2015.

11-28-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:55)

Logansport city leaders hope a power plant upgrade can jolt new business to life for the area. The city is accepting bids for a 600- million dollar project that the mayor says will not cost residents any extra on their electric bills. News 18's Holly Campbell reports that officials hope when complete it will generate almost 8 times more power than it does now.

11-28-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

West Lafayette residents and business owners may see a new storm water fee. News 18's Brittany Tyner explains how much you could pay.

11-29-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:20)

Riggs Community Health Center officially opened their new facility with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The new facility, formally the Arnett Clinic, on South Street in Lafayette will provide free healthcare to those that cannot afford it. The newly renovated building plus the original Riggs facility on Hartford Street will go from 28 patient care rooms to 53.

11-29-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The Indiana Veterans Home is looking for applicants to fill about fifty jobs available at the Veterans Home. The Veterans Home held a job fair to look for qualified workers to serve those who have served the country.

12-3-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Antibiotic resistant bacteria have wreaked havoc on some hospitals around the nation. Some cases have been reported locally. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports what one hospital is doing to make sure patients are protected from these new bacteria.

12-3-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Purdue will lay off 22 employees with the closing of its construction inspection department.

12-5-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

The Magnetation company will invest 350 million dollars to build a plant in Reynolds, Indiana adding 120 jobs to the area.

12-13-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:40)

Almost four dozen people will be laid off after Evonik Degussa Corporation announced yesterday it is trying a new global strategy plan to make the company more flexible and competitive. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler reports hope is not lost and city officials say they are ready to do what they can to help everyone affected.

12-24-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

With a movie theater and playground, Lafayette's newest auto dealership isn't your grandfather's car-lot. News 18's Jeff Smith reports the Bob Rohrman Auto Group's newest location in Lafayette is open and ready for business.

12-28-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

A popular White County marina will soon have new owners, a move prompted by a large construction project. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports, Pearson's Marina on Lake Freeman has been sold to the owners of the Tall Timbers Marina on Lake Shafer.

CRIME

The third quarter brought the story of a local man who fought off another man trying to break into his home. In a bizarre story, an act of kindness nearly turns violent. An argument turns deadly, leaving Lafayette police to investigate the first homicide of the year and charges are later filed. A local crime analyst says this years crime rate could be the highest within the last five years. A string of robberies seem unrelenting in the area. Police urge businesses to be on the look out for pink-stained money. In one of the most gruesome crimes to hit the area, a guilty verdict if finally handed down.

10-8-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

A Frankfort man fends off a man trying to break into his home. The victim was left with lacerations on his legs. As News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, police continue to search for the man, but they still need something from the victim.

10-15-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

A Lafayette man faces a preliminary murder charge in the city's first homicide of the year. Investigators say it was a dispute about a woman that got out of hand. News 18's Dan Klein reports.

10-16-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A client of the Indiana Mentor Group Home struck a staff member and then grabbed a knife and stabbed another resident. Lafayette Police investigated.

10-16-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

Lafayette police continue to investigate the city's first homicide of the year. As News 18's Krista Henery reports investigators say while neighborhood residents should always be aware of their surroundings they shouldn't be alarmed by the Kossuth Street murder yesterday.

10-17-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

A Lafayette man faces a preliminary murder charge. 52-year-old Kevin Adams was arrested. He's accused in the shooting death of 32-year-old Robert Rudicle the second.

10-18-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

After the most recent bank robbery this morning in Lafayette, residents say they're more concerned for their safety every day. As News 18's Krista Henery reports those we spoke to today say after the recent string of crimes they're now left asking 'what's next?'

10-22-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Charges have been filed in the murder case against 51 year-old Kevin Adams of Lafayette. According to prosecutors Adams faces one charge of murder for the October 15th shooting of Robert Rudicle. Police say Adams shot Rudicle in the chest with a shotgun after Adams says he was smacked in the face by Rudicle.

10-23-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:50)

West Lafayette police are investigating an armed robbery at a cash advance center. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports employees played their part to keep everyone safe during the daytime robbery.

10-25-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

Lafayette crime analysts say this year's crime rate could be the highest in five years. A rate helped by crimes like Monday when police say three people ran off with 600 dollars worth of clothes from a clothing store. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler reports the suspects have not been caught.

10-26-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Leading officials in cybercrime met in Lafayette to showcase their efforts in the fight against online criminal activity.

10-26-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

An arrest is made in a Monticello murder case. The Monticello Police Department says 21-year-old Ray Chamorro, of Schererville, was arrested for the shooting death of Tye Rentfrow.

10-26-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:05)

The Regions Bank in Frankfort was robbed by two men with handguns. The robbery was the area's fourth robbery in just six weeks. The two individuals fled on foot.

10-27-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Clinton County deputies are warning area businesses to be on the look out for money with pink dye stains. Deputies say a pink dye pack exploded on the money stolen from the Regions Bank in Frankfort

10-29-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

While some kids are starting to hit the streets to trick-or-treat the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Department is reminding parents to be aware of your neighborhood and those who live there. As News 18's Krista Henery reports while registered sex offenders are not ordered to do anything different around this time of year parents can still keep a close eye on them all by a click of a mouse.

10-29-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

Purdue students the target of a string of robberies taking place three nights in a row. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports police believe the robberies are connected.

10-29-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Police in Frankfort investigate an armed robbery at the Clarks gas station. The man was armed with a pellet gun and a knife. He walked into the gas station and demanded money. A fight ensued and the man took off running with an undisclosed amount of money.

10-30-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Two more people are under arrest in relation to the Monticello murder of Tye Rentfrow. Rentfrow was killed October fourth in his home. 19 year-old Lashea Ramsey was arrested and 30 year-old David Jones was arrested in Cook County, Illinois.

11-15-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

The Gas America station on Sagamore Parkway was robbed. The suspect escaped with cash, merchandise and was carrying a hand gun.

11-17-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:50)

The family of a murdered Lafayette man says a guilty verdict helps ease the pain, but not very much. After five hours of deliberation this evening, a jury found Darren Englert guilty of six charges related to the death of Jeremy Gibson last summer. While Englert remained quiet with little expression walking out of court, it wasn't the same for Gibson's family. News 18's Dan Klein reports.

11-19-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:15)

Lafayette police say they don't believe two robberies in Lafayette are related. First, Aldi Supermarket on Sagamore Parkway was robbed. Then a Papa John's pizza delivery driver was robbed at the 3,100 block of Vinton Street.

11-19-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:10)

An act of kindness leads to an attempted robbery in Lafayette. Residents say a male knocked on the door and asked to use their phone. They say while they got the phone he let himself in through the door that was left ajar. He then asked them for something to drink. And when they went to do that, they noticed he was trying to put video games in his pocket. When they approached the man and asked him to leave, he became physical.

11-25-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Some of us send and receive hundreds of text messages a day. But police warn some texts being sent recently are scams and are simply thieves trying to get into your bank accounts. News 18's Kelly Roberts spoke to one woman who had a close call with these scams and has more on how you can avoid becoming a victim.

11-29-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

A clerk at the Red Roof Inn in Lafayette was punched in the face and robbed. The suspect fled on foot.

11-29-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

One horse is dead and another is being treated at Purdue for its wounds after being shot multiple times. Police say it happened in Anderson Wednesday afternoon. News 18's Holly Campbell reports the condition of the surviving horse and what charges police say the person responsible could face if caught.

11-29-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

In Montgomery County, 39 year-old Matthew Hickman was charged with murder, reckless homicide, aggravated battery and battery with a deadly weapon.

12-10-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

The search continues for a man who police say robbed a Lafayette convenience store at gunpoint. It happened at the Citgo on the corner of Creasy Lane and McCarty Lane

12-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

West Lafayette police tell News 18 that 70 percent of car break-ins result from unlocked doors or items being visible from the exterior of the car.

12-14-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

An overnight robbery at a Lafayette Village Pantry on North 14th street marks the 18th robbery in the area during the past two months. News 18's Krista Henery talks to a crime analyst for the Lafayette Police Department who says data shows the amount of robberies are significantly higher than this time last year.

12-24-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

A woman was hospitalized after she sustained a gunshot wound to an unspecified area. The woman's boyfriend was arrested and taken in for questioning.

12-26-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

The Delphi Police Department and the Carroll County Sheriff's Office are asking for the public's help to identify a person of interest in a string of criminal mischief.

12-26-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:50)

The year 2012 saw several murders and some crime that remains unsolved. News 18's Dan Klein has a look at this year's top crime stories and it begins with some resolution to 2011's biggest crime stories.

DIVERSITY

The Red Kettle campaign kicks off with a very strong goal set by the Salvation Army. News 18 shows one of the areas icons transition to the Indiana Supreme Court. News 18 looks at the services offered by the YWCA Women's Cancer Program. A very tough set of circumstances hits a local animal shelter. Food Finders sets a goal of collecting 150,000 meals for the holiday season. A local 5K run will offer all of its proceeds to Food Finders Food Bank. A golf course becomes a very large donation.

10-1-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. The YWCA of Greater Lafayette held a ceremony on the IVY Tech campus to raise awareness.

10-1-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

October is "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" and News 18 is committed to helping spread awareness. Every Monday, we'll be reporting stories of survivors, treatment and new research. Today, we're taking a look at the Women's Cancer Program at the YWCA in Lafayette. Serving 23 counties, the program provides help to roughly one third of the state. News 18's Liz Nichols takes a closer look at how the program is saving lives and improving the quality of life for those battling the disease.

10-2-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

In an annual event organized by the YWCA, the John T. Myers Pedestrian Bridge was lit pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

10-3-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

It's just over a month until Judge Loretta Rush begins her job with the Indiana Supreme Court. But first, as News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, she plans to finish up business in Tippecanoe County which included a stop at Jeff High School.

10-8-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

We continue with our weekly series on breast cancer awareness. We took a look at the services offered by the YWCA Women's Cancer Program. The program helps women who are uninsured and under-insured. News 18's Liz Nichols introduces us to Jamie Davis. She's a woman who was screened, diagnosed and treated for breast cancer through the program. She says the Y is the reason she's alive today.

10-11-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Without your help an animal shelter in Attica will be forced to euthanize its animals. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler reports vets say the decision had to be made.

10-11-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:35)

One Lafayette area high school football team tackled a new project this season involving giving back to the community. News 18's Jessie Hawila went to the home of the McCutcheon Mavericks this afternoon to see how charity work carried out by the players will feed hungry families.

10-14-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Delphi residents had to take a second look at an unusual scene today. 45 bras were stretched across the Washington Street Bridge in Delphi. As News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, it's a group's way to shed a light on Breast Cancer a disease that for them hits very close to home.

10-15-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

To date, the Lafayette Police Department has received 229 reported cases of domestic violence. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler met up with a member of the Lafayette Police Department Crime Analysis lab who breaks down domestic violence cases in Lafayette.

10-25-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Food Finders Food Bank has set a goal of collecting 150,000 meals by November 30. The agency kicked off its annual "Drive Away Hunger" fall food drive. More than 40 local schools, businesses and churches have agreed to hold food drives for this push.

10-28-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:10)

A health fair at Lafayette Jeff High School focused on life before, with, and after cancer. More than 40 local businesses had booths promoting healthy lifestyles.

10-30-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :15)

About two dozen men and women lined up stringing bras over and back on the John T. Myers Pedestrian Bridge. These bras are part of the two thousand that have been donated to the YWCA Women's Cancer Program.

11-6-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Students at Harrison High School found a creative way to voice their opinion on the presidential election and help a good cause at the same time. On the first day of the school's food drive for the Food Finders Food Bank, students cast their tin can ballots in one of two piles, one for President Barack Obama and one for Mitt Romney.

11-9-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:35)

Local food banks and soup kitchens in Lafayette are working hard to feed hungry families in our community this holiday season. News 18's Holly Campbell reports what you can do to help provide a holiday meal for families this Thanksgiving.

11-10-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

More than one thousand volunteers took the time to make sure the elderly have their homes ready for when the colder weather rolls around. This is the eleventh year Purdue's Wesley Foundation and St. Thomas Aquinas church held the winterizing project. The project aims at cleaning up the elderly's homes for winter.

11-13-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Many new additions have come to the Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club in the past few days. On Friday, a new gym opened at the Beck Lane location and today a new play area.

11-16-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

The Salvation Army kicked off its Red Kettle campaign. The goal is 185 thousand dollars. Money raised through the campaign helps provide a holiday for needy families.

11-16-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:05)

Thanksgiving dinners will be served at the Saint Matthew 25 Care and Share Soup Kitchen. The organization, which partners with Food Finders Food Bank says it's all about helping those in need during the holiday season. There is no requirement for getting food, so anyone from the Lafayette community is welcome to come and get a holiday meal.

11-17-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

A benefit for Tye Rentfrow, who was shot and killed inside his Monticello home, was held. The benefit

took place at Reynolds Elementary school. All of the money raised at the event will go to Tye's sons college fund and an Alternative School program which helps kids earn their GED.

11-19-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:05)

There are a lot benefits to having a smart phone, but in the hands of a teenager it could be criminal. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children one in six teenagers have experimented with sexting. Sexting is the exchange of sexual text messages or pictures. In a special report tonight, News 18's Holly Campbell brings us the first installment of 'The State of the Youth' and reports the dangers of sexting.

11-19-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:35)

Believe it or not Thanksgiving is just a few days away and today hundreds of people were able to get their Turkey Day meal for free. News 18's Elisabeth Rentschler was at St. Ann's Soup Kitchen today where for the fourth year in a row volunteers gathered to make sure this Thanksgiving everyone has something to be thankful for.

11-20-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

If you haven't made it to the grocery store for your Thanksgiving bird and all of the trimmings yet .. be prepared to see a slight increase at the checkout line compared to last year. News 18's Krista Henery reports experts say holiday shoppers will face moderate increases in food prices but those increases are nothing compared to what we saw last year.

11-22-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Fleet Feet Sports West Lafayette organized a special 5-K at Cumberland Park. Participants were encouraged to bring in canned items to donate to Food Finders Food Bank instead of a registration fee. More than 400 people took part.

11-23-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:50)

Whether it's through school programs or in their own special way..some local teens are giving back to their community. One local teen has even been named the Youth Volunteer of the Year. News 18's Holly Campbell brings us the final installment of "The State of the Youth," teens doing good in the community.

11-27-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Employees at Lifespan Health Services and Noble Mobile in West Lafayette have spent the last two weeks collecting coats at the office and area businesses. They will begin passing them out. This is the first year for the drive and giveaway. Organizers say they have more than 150 children and adult coats.

11-28-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The number of children in poverty is rising dramatically according to child advocates. In Tippecanoe County, the rate has nearly doubled since the year 2000. That year 11 percent of children were living in poverty in Tippecanoe County. Nine years later the figure was 20 percent.

12-1-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Officers from multiple agencies could all be found at the West Lafayette Wal-mart this morning. But it wasn't for a 9-1-1 call, rather, to make sure all children have a Merry Christmas. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports how many local children were able to shop with a cop.

12-4-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Tippy Connect, a group of young men and women, dedicated to helping improve Lafayette businesses has chosen to help raise funds for Food Finders Food Bank. For the next three years they plan to help fund the Food Finders Backpack program and keep mobile food pantries stocked.

12-5-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

10 percent of the profits at Nine Irish Brothers in West Lafayette will go directly to the Shop with a Cop program.

12-6-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

The Red Kettle campaign is underway and the Salvation Army says they still need volunteers.

12-9-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Eleven law enforcement agencies joined together to give a group of children a Christmas to remember. More than 85 children gathered at the American Lodge in Monticello to take part in the Shop with a Cop event.

12-11-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Leaders of area not-for-profit groups are watching what's going on in Washington very closely. News 18's Krista Henery explains how they'll be affected if no agreement is reached to avert the looming tax increases and spending cuts.

12-11-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

After 37 years of helping an estimated 74 thousand people the founding director of the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy is retiring. It's an announcement News 18 first reported last night at 11. News 18's Brittany Tyner gives us a look back at the woman who touched the lives of so many.

12-12-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Benton Central is providing a boost to some students in the area that may need some help getting enough food to eat. Weekly, the Benton Central High School Life Skills class packs and distributes backpacks filled with food to students who may need assistance.

12-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

It's the season of giving, but the giving is lower than years past at the Salvation Army. News 18's Brittany Tyner explains how numbers are down for both the annual "Red Kettle Campaign" and "Toys for Tots" toy drive.

12-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Salvation Army exceeded its goal of collecting 150 thousand meals. The donations collected totaled more than 170 thousand meals.

12-19-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

The Salvation Army said an anonymous person dropped five thousand dollars in a kettle during the Red Kettle campaign. Money raised goes to needy families during the holidays.

12-20-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Salvation Army is still in need of a few items to make this year's holiday possible for less fortunate children in the Greater Lafayette area.

12-20-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Preparations are underway to feed nearly 4-thousand community members this Christmas. Volunteers spent two days making food for this year's 25th annual Christmas Day dinner at Jefferson High School in Lafayette.

12-22-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

For many, New Years Eve is a time to get together with friends and celebrate the year ahead. For years, many have relied on free taxi rides on the holiday in case they had too much to drink. But as News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, if you want a ride this New Year's Eve you might have to pay.

12-27-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

A Tippecanoe County golf course is now becoming a big donation. The Battle Ground Golf Club will soon be owned by the Lafayette Parks Foundation. News 18's Brittany Tyner the donation is aimed at helping Lafayette's young golfers.

12-29-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Some Lafayette residents and Colts fans took time out of their weekend to donate blood to help save a life. It was all part of the the 13th annual Bleed Blue Blood Drive at Market Square. News 18's Austin Miller has the story.

EDUCATION

Impressive national rankings are revealed in the third quarter for an area high school. An increase in population in local schools will impact where students get an education. In 2013, students will be forced to attend a different school to handle the growing student population. Education becomes a hot topic as News 18 heads into the election. Parents were able to learn about the school voucher system. A combined \$288,000 is handed out in raises for school administrators.

10-8-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

The Lafayette School Corporation comes to a contract agreement with its teachers for the 2013-2014 school year.

10-10-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

A population boom in the Tippecanoe School Corporation means that some students may have to switch schools. Due to increasing enrollment this year.. some Klondike and Woodland Elementary students may have to make a move next year.

10-22-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The West Lafayette Community School Corporation is receiving national recognition for high test scores. West Lafayette Junior-Senior High School was ranked 19th.

10-24-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

Of course, the Senate race isn't the only hotly contested one in Indiana. Two candidates running for Superintendent of Public Instruction duked it out on stage tonight. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports they diverged early and often on a number of issues facing the public school system for the next four years.

10-25-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :48)

The IU School of Medicine Lafayette is expanding to allow more student enrollment. The school on Purdue's campus is transitioning from a two year school to a four year school.

10-30-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Community members visited Faith Christian School in Lafayette to learn more about the school voucher system. More than 9,000 students will take advantage of the program this year according to School Choice Indiana.

10-30-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

About 600 kids and a few dozen parents were able to listen in as the school reached out to the International Space Station. The students from West Lafayette's Cumberland Elementary were able to ask 20 questions.

11-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

A Lafayette School Corporation teacher is fired after authorities say he lied on his application.

11-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The school board also approved a two million dollar bond to buy computers and wireless technology for the district. More than one million of the amount will go to wireless technology at Jeff High School.

11-13-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

A new study puts Purdue second among public universities for the largest number of international students. But the biggest number, is how much International students put into the nation's economy each year. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports on the financial and civic role, international students play in the community.

11-14-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

The Tippecanoe School Corporation will perform limited criminal background checks on all volunteers. It was one of several measures passed by the Board of Trustees

11-14-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Battle Ground Middle School Principal BeAnn Younker and Burnett Creek Elementary Principal Mark Pearl are the District 4 middle school and elementary principals of the year.

11-15-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

A new Ivy Tech program showcases itself to prospective students. Beginning in January, the automotive technology program at the Lafayette campus will offer an accelerated institute program.

11-21-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

Indiana's school voucher system is the fastest growing school choice program in the country. Over 9,000 children now attend private schools at the state's expense. This program was on the line at the state supreme court. Justices heard the arguments in a legal challenge to the voucher system.

11-27-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Ivy Tech nursing students got some hands on experience today during a mock disaster. First year students were made up to simulate real injuries and did some role-playing to give practice in situations of bio-terrorism, natural disasters or other large-scale disasters.

11-28-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The Tippecanoe School Corporation Board has a vacancy to fill after an incumbent decided not to run for re-election and no one else filed to appear on the ballot.

12-10-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Funding for full-day kindergarten in Indiana more than doubles for the 2012- 2013 school year. More than 189 million dollars will be distributed to school districts and charter schools

12-10-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

LSC trustees approved the school calendar for the next academic year. For the first time, the first semester will end before the Christmas break. The first day for students will be August 13th 2013 and the final day is slated for May 21st.

12-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:20)

The Tippecanoe School Corporation trustees give hundreds of employees a bonus. For the 781 employees it means a combined 288 thousand dollars. The board also approved a two percent salary increase for support staff.

12-14-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:50)

The horrific events this morning have many parents across the country worried about the safety of their kids in school. News 18's Jessie Hawila spoke with local parents and school officials about safety procedures.

12-17-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:45)

Local teachers and principals say they're prepared to answer questions following the tragic Newtown school shooting. News 18's Kelly Roberts speaks to area superintendents about security routines.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

A road that needs to be repaved turns into a controversy that heads to court. A rezoning issue leaves dozens of people frustrated. A road project opens up after decades of planning. A vegetable oil spill slows down traffic in the area for days. Potholes cause major problems on Interstate 65. An old battery plant comes down and 10 homes deemed unsafe are demolished. Purdue will receive a new, 13 million dollar, softball stadium. A new housing development receives approval.

10-1-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

A rezoning issue leaves dozens of people frustrated after it's tabled at this morning's Tippecanoe County Commissioner's Meeting. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports on the new concern that came up at the meeting and why neighbors will continue to fight.

10-9-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

Some West Lafayette residents will have the opportunity to see how city and county officials hope to revitalize and stabilize the New Chauncey neighborhood. News 18's Brittany Tyner was there while the Tippecanoe County area plan commission gathered input from the community.

10-12-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

A 13 million dollar stadium is coming to Purdue. The Board of Trustees approved plans for a new softball stadium at the athletics site at McCormick Road and Cherry Lane.

10-15-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

Only minutes into today's Tippecanoe County Commissioners meeting, neighbors had their answer about a controversial rezoning plan many have been fighting. The petitioner withdrew the rezoning request for a West Lafayette rental property. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports on what caused the unlikely decision.

10-17-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

As News 18's Krista Henery reports, construction crews at the Faith West and the Wabash Commons sites are moving along quickly thanks to a dry summer.

10-17-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Residents of Tippecanoe county expressed concerns over a rezoning request.

10-24-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

After decades of planning a portion of the Hoosier Heartland in Carroll County opens today. As News 18's Krista Henery reports drivers say they can't wait to get behind the wheel on the new road.

10-22-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Vegetable oil continues to cover some roadways in Tippecanoe County this evening. News 18's Holly Campbell has more on how long we can expect cleaning crews to be out on the roads.

10-23-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

The old Exide Battery plant is coming down in Frankfort. The sight has been filled with different businesses for more than 100 years. Residents and city officials call it an eye sore. But, as News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, as fast as people want it down, extra precautions are in place to protect residents and the environment.

10-25-12 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :45)

Governor Mitch Daniels along with federal, state and local officials cut the ribbon yesterday, marking the completion of a 12 mile stretch of the new State Road 25. It runs between I 65 in Lafayette and US 421 in Delphi.

10-25-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:50)

Nearly 250 Frontier Communications customers in Lafayette have phone and Internet service restored. News 18's Holly Campbell reports what Frontier Communications is doing to help prevent cables from being cut.

10-26-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

The old Exide Battery plant is coming down in Frankfort. The sight has been filled with different businesses for more than 100 years. Residents and city officials call it an eye sore, but as News 18's Kelly Roberts reports, as fast as people want it down, extra precautions are in place to protect residents and the environment.

10-30-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

An interesting discovery stops some work of the Hoosier Heartland Highway construction. As we reported yesterday on News 18 headstones were dug up during work. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports they may not have come from a cemetery.

11-9-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

A Lafayette charter school breaks ground on a new building. The groundbreaking marked the beginning of a nearly four million dollar project.

11-13-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

More development headed to Tippecanoe County as the Area Plan Commission considers a proposal for a 266 housing development. News 18's Dan Klein explains how this project may be the first of many.

11-14-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Almost exactly a year ago the Goodland water tower collapsed, creating quite the mess physically and financially for the small town. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports, more than a million dollars later, the Newton County town is back up and running better than ever.

11-19-12 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :30)

At least 10 lots were added to a West Lafayette neighborhood after an approval from the Tippecanoe County Commissioners.

11-21-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:05)

The Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County approved a neighborhood plan for Lafayette's Historic Centennial neighborhood. The move could make a permanent home for local festivals.

11-27-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Plans move forward for Phase two of roadway improvement work along Sagamore Parkway in Lafayette.

11-28-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Construction will start on a new theater in Logansport. Mayor Ted Franklin says the theater will bring four full-time jobs and 25 part-time jobs to Logansport.

11-29-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

A four million dollar renovation is becoming more and more realistic for Delphi. News 18's Brittany Tyner tells us more about how the Stellar Community will be getting a brand new community center in hopes of driving economic development.

12-4-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

West Lafayette Police hope a new incentive will get more vehicles and officers into the city's neighborhoods. The policy will allow some officers to take their patrol cars home. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports this change could help grow a community and decrease crime.

12-10-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

A trial is underway in a controversial case out of Clinton County. News 18's Krista Henery joins us with the latest in the dispute over paving County Road 450 West.

12-11-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Demolition is planned for ten abandoned homes in Logansport. The ten properties are unsafe.

12-12-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

Some Tippecanoe County residents are asking for changes to an intersection that they say will make it more safe. But county highway officials say there's just not enough traffic at 500 North and 225 West to meet minimum requirements. News 18's Kelly Roberts reports.. at least one woman who says help is needed to make the intersection quiet once again.

12-17-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A judge in Hamilton County ruled Commissioners could move forward on a controversial road paving project on County Road 450 West.

12-18-12 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

West Lafayette will soon become more accessible. The Board of Works approved the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan. As a result, an evaluation of all city owned buildings will take place with changes to make them handicap accessible.

12-21-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Fire Station three in West Lafayette opens. The three million dollar facility will house 15 firefighters and two trucks.

12-21-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

A Clinton County road project may still have the red light even though it was upheld by a judge.

12-22-12 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Traffic on I-65 was backed up for quite awhile today as drivers were driving over a series of potholes. Those potholes were causing flat tires and a lot of headaches for holiday travelers. News 18's Holly Campbell met up with Indiana State Police who've been responding to calls for the past three days.

12-25-12 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:00)

2012 has been a busy year for construction crews and the Indiana Department of Transportation. As for drivers, well some of those projects have caused a lot of headaches. Some major projects are complete,

but others are still under construction heading into 2013. News 18's Holly Campbell reports what INDOT officials have to say about progress in 2012 and what drivers can expect in the new year.